Since judging will take place after the Fair has opened on Saturday, ropes will be strung down the center aisle of the Flower Building approximately 3 feet out from the curb, and club members and Dick Willis' staff will insure that no unauthorized persons move inside the ropes, as the judges must be allowed to operate without interference.

Since the blooms not mailed or shipped must be carried to the Flower Building the logical point of entry to the Fair Grounds is the South Boulevard gate (vehicular), with any person carrying Hibiscus blooms to be passed through without charge, and with the vehicular gateman supplying them with a ticket which will enable them to re-enter the Fair Grounds the same date at a designated hour - probably 9:30 p.m. - for the purpose of picking up their awards.

If any other information is desired please contact Mrs. Wylie either by mail or phone - 61-3391 in Tampa. All members of the AHS are asked to help out in any way possible. The Fair officials have expressed the desire that this can be made an annual affair if it works out. The Sunset Chapter will be in need of bloom every day, not just the day of the show, and it is our understanding that the Fair will accept freight collect shippments within reason.

See you all at the Fair.

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WE DON'T HAVE HIBISCUS,

BUT WE DO HAVE GAS.

DROP IN AND SEE US.

RAY'S STANDARD SERVICE

13640 N.W. 7th Avenue

Miami, Florida.

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HIBISCUS IN NEW ORLEANS - James Lynch

Here in New Orleans and the surrounding areas Hibiscus are rapidly increasing in popularity. During the Winter we are protected from a lot of cold by the Gulf on the South and Lake Pontchartrain on the North, whose waters help to moderate the cold North winds and it is not unusual for Hibiscus to bloom the year round in the city proper. However in the suburbs where I live, frosts are a problem. It is not a large one though and with a little protection they are carried through the Winter in good shape. The waters of the lake and gulf that I mentioned before and the frequent Summer showers help to keep our temperature from going too high and as a result our Hibiscus seem happy here.

The older varieties seem to be the most popular here such as Kona, Flamingo, Subviolaceous, etc. However during recent years quite a lot of the newer ones are being seen.

We have found that they are not too particular as to type of soil, but seem to be at their best in our Azalea & Camellia soil. I have found that they like lots of water during the growing months but must also have good drainage. In early March I give them a top dressing of cow manure followed a month later with a 6-10-4 organic nitrogen base fertilizer. I feed them only enough to keep them in slow steady growth rather than fast flushes with heavy applications months apart. In early September I like to again top dress with cow manure and do not feed again until the followign Spring. In late November I apply a thick mulch of Severall and cut them back to 3 to 4 feet. Which makes them easier to protect in case of cold, gives me early blooms in the Spring and of course a bushier plant.

A few good seedlings have been developed in Louisiana and hybridizing work is now being done in several places. Also a long range program has been started to cross the Althea with the Rosa Sinensis and other species to bring more hardiness to our modern hybrids. So I am sure that very soon some worthwhile varieties will be coming out of Louisiana.

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